



TRIHEALTH IMAGING

Pediatric Imaging

In light of recent concerns with the overall radiation dose to the population, especially with children, TriHealth Imaging is providing information regarding pediatric imaging at our locations throughout TriHealth.

There are some specific guidelines to pediatric imaging at TriHealth that have been approved by the radiologists and they are as follows:

- For general routine x-ray exams, there are no age restrictions for general routine x-ray exams at any TriHealth imaging location. Barium studies may be performed on ages 12 and up. Arthrograms are performed on ages 14 and up. Myelograms are not done on children at our facilities.
- For CT scanning, TriHealth Imaging has no age restriction for head and sinus exams without contrast. All other outpatient CT scans can be done on ages 12 and up, including spine & orthopedic CT scans without contrast. CT scans may be performed for those under 12 in the Emergency Department settings only. All exceptions require a radiologist approval.
- For MRI, musculoskeletal (MSK) exams and spine exams ordered by any physician we have no age restrictions. All other MRI scans are for ages 16 and up. All exceptions require a radiologist approval.
- For Nuclear Medicine, scans are protocol specific for certain exams. Anyone age 16 and up can have a Nuclear Medicine exam at our facilities. TriHealth Imaging will perform bone scans on patients 10 and up. All exceptions require a radiologist approval.
- For Ultrasound, TriHealth Imaging will image all patients age 12 and up with the exception of pelvic ultrasounds. Pelvic Ultrasounds are only for ages 18 and up. We do not perform r/o appendicitis ultrasound exams. All exceptions require a radiologist approval.
- For Breast Imaging, TriHealth Imaging will perform breast ultrasounds on patients age 14 and up. These studies may be performed at the Breast Imaging Centers at Good Samaritan Hospital and Bethesda North. These breast ultrasound exams do not necessarily need to be accompanied by a Breast Surgery Center appointment. All exceptions to the age limit require a radiologist approval.

As a department, we can assure you that we are using doses that are at the utmost safety for pediatric patients, as our dosing is within the American College of Radiology guidelines and we work closely with our radiologists and medical physicists to ensure radiation protection by justification and optimization. All TriHealth CT scanners have been standardized with low dose software and/or protocols in response to XR29 regulatory requirements, which optimizes management of radiation dose while providing high quality

images. We also abide by the ALARA (As Low as Reasonably Achievable) principle, which provides guidelines for minimizing radiation doses.

We are also a part of a larger national initiative called Image Gently, where the goal is to change practice by increasing awareness of the opportunities to lower radiation dose in the imaging of children.

To reach a radiologist at any time, please call the following number: 865-1331

If you should have any further questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to Imaging Management

Dr. David Dow, Radiologist 865-1331

Don Owens, Director of TriHealth Imaging 865-1325

Brandon Young, Good Samaritan Region Imaging Manager 862-3750

Nick Gallo, Bethesda North Region Imaging Manager 865-1268

Kim Richards, McCullough-Hyde Imaging Manager 524-5363